

East Renfrewshire Council

Audit and Scrutiny Committee



Report on activity 2017-22



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Foreword by Chair

As was the case during previous Administrations, between 2017 and 2022, the Audit and Scrutiny Committee was charged with scrutinising the work of the Council, but unlike previous years, there were two main differences.

Chronologically, the first was that in 2019 the Council identified funding to employ a Scrutiny and Evaluation Officer for one year which enabled some detailed work to be progressed which could not have been resourced otherwise. With support from Charlie Leleux, for which I am grateful, and taking account of the increasingly challenging financial position facing the Council, the Committee opted to carry out an investigation on some aspects of Council funding, in particular income generation and commercialisation opportunities. This resulted in 12 recommendations being made and subsequently accepted by the Cabinet. A second detailed investigation, also supported by that officer and progressed long before the COP26 event took place in Glasgow, focussed on ways we, as a Council, could help mitigate climate change and perhaps give a lead to others. This work was undertaken at a time when we didn't know just how big the climate change lobby would become. Again, all of the Committee's 24 recommendations were accepted by the Cabinet.

The second major change came on 23 March 2020 with the introduction of lockdown due to COVID-19. Whoever would have thought something like that would happen in our lifetime. Everyone within the Council had to adapt, which they have, to new ways of working, and the Committee was no exception. As a local farmer, I have always been working from home, but the impact of COVID-19 gave this phrase a whole new meaning. Without detailing all the changes forced upon us, a major change for the Committee was that we were unable to meet face to face for over two years. Instead, using technology at our disposal, since

March 2020 we have met virtually which we did successfully. For some people, such new ways of working may not be considered difficult, but the full impact of such changes on mental health may not emerge for years to come.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank a range of other people who have made such a positive contribution to the work of the Committee, starting with all my fellow Councillors who have served on it. I would also like to thank the External Auditor, John Cornett, including for his contribution to the investigation on income generation and commercialisation, and the other members of his team for their support including initially Elaine Barrowman and Morven Fraser and, more recently Louisa Yule and Emma Rose Drummond.

I am also indebted to, and wish to thank, all the Council officers who, over the past 5 years, have diligently contributed to the Committee's work either in person or through TEAMS. They include Margaret McCrossan, Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer) and Barbara Clark, Chief Accountant; Michelle Blair, Chief Auditor and Fiona Muir, Senior Auditor; Gill Darbyshire, Chief Executive's Business Manager; and Anthony Jenkins, Resilience Coordinator, all of whom have attended meetings regularly.

Finally, my special and sincere thanks go to Linda Hutchison, Clerk to the Committee, for the wide range of work she had done to support the Committee and the related guidance she has provided.

Councillor Stewart Miller

Chair of Audit and Scrutiny Committee

April 2022

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1. The Committee's Remit and Work Programme - Overview

Good internal scrutiny plays an important role in demonstrating good governance and ensuring public confidence in Scotland's councils. An essential part of Elected Member scrutiny at East Renfrewshire Council is seen in the work of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee. In line with good practice, it is chaired by a member of the Opposition and its membership, which comprises 7 Members, is cross-party in nature. The Vice-Chair is also an Opposition Member.

The Audit and Scrutiny Committee was established in 1999 (originally as the Audit Committee) to examine the Council's performance across a wide range of activities with the ultimate aim of improving service delivery to its citizens. The Committee has a wide remit which includes helping to ensure the Council's governance arrangements are operating effectively, scrutiny and promotion of internal controls and discussing internal and external audit issues, as well as considering more traditional 'audit' functions, through all of which it focuses on both financial and non-financial issues and performance. The Committee may also investigate processes by which policy decisions have been taken, the substance of any particular policy and how it fits in with the overall objectives of the Council, and effectiveness of policy implementation.

The Committee also acts as a counterbalance in respect of some executive decisions made by the Cabinet which have been "called in". Calling in is a formal procedure which is invoked when five Councillors request a review of a Cabinet decision, usually one that has been considered contentious in some way, prior to it being implemented. Some called in decisions are referred to the full Council, but those referred to the Committee are then considered by it at an early date and a course of action recommended. This can be to proceed as planned by the Cabinet or to recommend a different approach.

To a significant extent, the Committee determines its own workload, but there are various externally and internally generated issues to which the Committee must attend. As for the other aspects of its work, these are detailed in the Committee's Terms of Reference which can be viewed in the Council's [Scheme of Administration](#).

The Committee has exercised more detailed scrutiny over a wide range of topics since 2017 including the use of external consultants, payment of invoices, income generation and commercialisation, climate change, absence management, risk matters and the implications for the Council of the UK leaving the European Union, on some of which it has received regular reports. Full Minutes of the proceedings of the Committee are publicly available on the Council's website ([Search for Meeting Papers and Minutes](#)). Summaries of the Committee's Work Plans are also available.

In order to build expertise and manage workload effectively, the Committee operates 'specialisation' arrangements whereby its Members, working in pairs, focus on specific service areas, reviewing External and some Internal Audit reports and related action plans in detail for example, in discussion with officers as appropriate.

The service specialisation portfolios were reviewed in 2018, the current ones held by members of the Committee being as set out below:

Service specialism	Members
Reports with Council-Wide Focus	Cllr Stewart Miller Cllr Barbara Grant
Chief Executive's Office	Cllr Angela Convery Cllr Annette Ireland
Business Operations and Partnerships Issues (formerly Corporate and Community Services)	Cllr Jim McLean Cllr Jim Swift
Education Issues	Cllr Jim McLean Cllr Jim Swift
Environment Issues	Cllr Stewart Miller Cllr Barbara Grant
Health and Social Care Partnership Issues	Cllr Angela Convery Cllr Charlie Gilbert

Reports on corporate responsibilities cutting across more than one department are dealt with under the service with lead responsibility for it.

An Audit of Best Value in East Renfrewshire Council took place in 2017, the overall outcome of which was very positive. One recommendation made was that Elected Members should take a more transparent and active role in scrutiny. Progress made on this subsequently included the delivery of a new programme of essential scrutiny skills training for Elected Members, including members of

the Committee, which is commented on further later. A Scrutiny and Evaluation Officer was also appointed in 2019 who was in post for one year whose remit included supporting the Committee to undertake reviews of issues it agreed to pursue itself.

In advance of supporting two such reviews, that officer supported the preparation of a *Guide to Scrutiny and Review*, within the overall context of Best Value. It included advice on good practice, what could be within and outwith 'scope' for scrutiny reviews, questioning techniques, and selection and rejection criteria for reviews. Following approval by the Committee and subsequently the full Council, the Guide was distributed widely, including to all committees and Elected Members.

The *Guide* proposed the development of annual work plans for the Committee which have been prepared since 2019/20. These documents, which include reference to recurring reports and on which progress is reviewed, can evolve further over time. Importantly, they assist the Committee to schedule and prioritise work, and provide transparency, openness and evidence of the Council's ongoing commitment to demonstrating Best Value and continuous improvement in the interests of local residents, customers and service users.

A further recent development is that, since January 2019, the Head of Accountancy (Chief Financial Officer) has attended meetings of the Committee as an advisor, which has also provided a useful link to the Corporate Management Team.

The remainder of this report provides a further summary of work the Committee has progressed since 2017 and a flavour of the wide ranging activity it has been involved in since then.

2. Corporate Governance

A key aspect of the Committee's work is considering the Council's corporate governance arrangements. Each year, the Committee has continued to consider and approve the Council's Code of Corporate Governance annual updates in line with the national framework for *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government* and its seven principles of good governance and related requirements. When scrutinising these reports, the Committee raised and discussed a range of related issues including stakeholder engagement, fraud and integrity issues and the timescale for the production of the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

Other governance related issues the Committee has continued to discuss regularly, providing assurances and in support of the Annual Governance Statement, include reports on treasury management, the Strategic Risk Register and risk progress, the Annual Audit Report and Accounts, and various Internal and External Audit Reports, some of which are explored further later in this report.

The local government landscape continues to be complex, such as due to partnerships and the use of Arm's Length External Organisations (ALEOs). Regarding the latter, the Committee approved the deletion of an audit of the operation of the East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust from the 2019/20 Internal Audit Plan, as a Best Value review of the Trust was to be progressed. Between 2019 and 2021 the Committee received reports on the scope and timeline of that work, the recommendations made and also a related update which referred to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their implementation.

The Vice-Chair of the Committee has continued to be a co-opted member of the Health and Social Care Partnership Integration Joint Board Audit and Performance Committee.

3. Risk Management

Another key function of the Committee is to scrutinise and support effective risk management arrangements across the Council. Biannually the Committee has continued to review reports on the Council's Strategic Risk Register (SRR) and general progress on risk management. The Committee's recommendations and decisions on these have included:

- seeking further clarification on the risk added to the SRR on poor environmental performance in implementing climate change mitigation adaptation measures (August 2018);
- agreeing that comments made by its Members on various issues, including the risk of failing to deliver 1,140 hours of free early learning and childcare by August 2020, be fed back to appropriate senior officers (March 2019);
- raising concerns regarding the risk score on reduced central government funding which had been lowered to medium (September 2019);
- seeking further information on why a risk on charging for the instrumental music service had been removed from the SRR (September 2020); and
- requesting that the wording of a risk on key care providers be reviewed in the interests of clarity (September 2021).

The Committee is also made aware of risk related matters through some other items it considers, such as by External Audit of the risk analysis it undertakes to help determine its Annual Audit Plan and that such an approach is also taken regarding the Internal Audit Plan.

4. External Audit and Annual Accounts

External Audit has continued to support the Council and the work of the Committee during the past 5 years. Each spring the Committee has considered the External Auditor's Annual Plan which summarises planned audit activity at the Council. The Council's Annual Accounts are also considered by the Committee every autumn, together with the associated Annual Report to the Council prepared by External Audit (prior to their submission to the Council). It is established practice for the External Auditor to discuss with the Committee issues relating to the Accounts prior to their certification based on International Standard on Auditing 260 (ISA 260). Due to COVID-19 these issues were considered in November in 2020 and 2021, rather than September, in line with a revised timetable set by the External Auditor.

The opportunity to review all local and various national External Audit reports and, in particular, to receive and discuss the feedback the Committee proactively requests from management on how well placed the Council is regarding the recommendations in them and how issues raised are being addressed locally, continues to be highly valued by the Committee. A good example is the Accounts Commission's annual *Overview of Local Government in Scotland* which the Committee reviews annually in conjunction with a report collating comments from across the Council and HSCP on the findings.

The Committee always seeks non-ambiguous, clear and transparent feedback from management on reports, including External Audit ones, which help it consider performance issues for example which is regarded essential to effective scrutiny. Although all members of the Committee see the reports and management feedback, under its 'specialisation' arrangements, different Members focus on specific service areas, reviewing relevant reports and related action plans in detail and in discussion with officers as appropriate.

Candid and important reports considered by the Committee each year include one prepared by the local External Auditor on the findings of its review of internal controls in key financial systems tests. An example of a report, considered in 2017, on which further action was taken, was the 2016/17 Local Interim Audit Report which referred to an issue on invoice payments. The Committee sought updates over time on how the issue was addressed and improvements delivered.

The wide range of important External Audit reports and related management feedback considered by the Committee between 2017 and 2022 has included those on:

- Equal Pay in Scottish Councils (November 2017), on which further information was sought on the gender balance of the Council's workforce and any equal pay issues that remained to be resolved;
- Self-Directed Support (SDS)(January 2018), on which further statistical information was requested, as was a further report on future SDS development activity which the Committee considered in 2021;
- The UK's Withdrawal from the European Union (February 2019), in relation to which a series of reports were requested over time and considered up to and including February 2022 and on which a range of discussions took place and clarification was sought such as on the EU Settlement Scheme, costs and contract issues; and
- The Scottish Government's Affordable Housing Supply Target (September 2020), on which a further report was requested and submitted subsequently in 2021 regarding the challenges involved in delivering social housing in East Renfrewshire.

5. External Inspection Reports

In line with its work on External Audit issues, the Committee has continued to request updates on various inspection reports prepared by external organisations about Council Services (e.g. the Care Inspectorate). These are dealt with outwith its formal meetings, but generally under its specialisation arrangements. Members have the option to raise matters, by exception, including at formal meetings if necessary.

6. Internal Audit

The Audit and Scrutiny Committee values and has commended the high quality work of the Council's Internal Audit team. The performance of Internal Audit has also been commented on by External Audit, such as through their annual reports considering internal audit arrangements. The Committee has received several reports since 2017 on the section's compliance with Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS), which is very high, and approved the latest version of the Internal Audit Charter (required under PSIAS) in June 2018, which defines the Council's internal audit activities in the context of purpose, authority and responsibility and the scope of activities undertaken.

The Committee values considering the Internal Audit Annual Plan each spring followed by related progress reports submitted throughout the year. Through these, it can discuss and request further clarification on topics as required. Additional detail provided in these reports since 2018, on the findings of individual audits and on acceptance of related recommendations,

has been welcomed. As was the case for External Audit, the pandemic impacted significantly on the Internal Audit work that could be carried out and consequently the Committee approved changes to Internal Audit Plans as required.

A further important annual task is to consider the Internal Audit Annual Report in late summer, following which the Committee submits a report to the Council seeking approval of the Internal Audit Annual Statement on the Adequacy and Effectiveness of the Governance, Risk Management and Internal Control Systems of the Council.

Arising from discussions on the findings of Internal Audit work, examples of issues pursued by the Committee since 2017 include:

- Reviewing a report on Creditors and the associated management plan (June 2017); and
- Seeking confirmation on processes to demonstrate that all purchases of £50,000 and above had been certified by procurement in advance to comply with the Council's Contract Standing Orders (September 2021)

7. Anti-Fraud Activity

The Committee has continued to consider various reports on fraud, including ones on the National Fraud Initiative and External Audit reports focussing on fraud and irregularity and related issues. Further action taken has included requesting examples of the types of fraud that can occur regarding civic and taxi licensing. The Chief Auditor also alerts the Committee to fraud and potential fraud issues, some of which have been reported through the Council's whistleblowing hotline, such as when presenting her regular Internal Audit progress reports.

Arising from a review of the Code of Corporate Governance, it was identified that an annual fraud statement should be prepared and submitted to the Committee. The Committee has received such reports since 2019, starting with the East Renfrewshire Council Annual Fraud Statement 2019/20. Such reports have provided the Committee with an overview of measures in place across the Council to address anti-fraud, bribery and theft; refer to the management of the risk of fraud and corruption; provide updates on action taken where appropriate; and comment on the Committee's scrutiny role in relation to the application of the Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Theft Strategy. One issue raised during discussion was a few cases of suspected fraud examined in relation to the business grants made available linked to the COVID-19 pandemic.

8. In-depth Work by the Committee

Periodically topics are identified by the Committee which it considers require further exploration by its own members. Typically this more in-depth, analytical and time-consuming work results in the Committee producing detailed reports on the topics, including comments and/or recommendations to be considered and taken forward by the Cabinet or CMT as considered appropriate. The appointment of the Scrutiny and Evaluation Officer, referred to previously, provided more scope to schedule such work than would have been the case otherwise. The Committee's Work Plans also include reference to these and the timescales to progress them. Two such pieces of work undertaken in 2019 and 2020 are referred to below:

Income Generation and Commercialisation

In December 2019 the Cabinet considered the Committee's report on its [Investigation on Income Generation and Commercialisation](#) which was progressed between July and October 2019 and finalised that November. The Committee considered this work to have potential to generate new income streams; contribute to achieving savings targets; help meet the strategic priority areas of the Community Plan; and help deliver the Council's corporate plan 'Vision for the Future'. Other potential benefits were considered to include demonstrating financial responsibility; helping to deliver Best Value; and sustaining/improving service levels.

In total, 12 recommendations were made by the Committee, a key one being that a new policy on commercialisation be established, supported by a cross-departmental team with expertise to implement the key recommendations of the policy and an associated action plan. Having agreed to support the recommendations in principle, the Cabinet approved a formal response in

September 2020 which reflected that all 12 recommendations had been agreed. Despite the challenges of dealing with COVID-19, work had been started in many areas, with future work planned. The Committee noted progress at that stage and a subsequent [Update on the Implementation of the Recommendations](#) in January 2022, agreeing then also to seek further clarification on several issues, including discussions on the new policy on commercialisation and strengthening links with Young Enterprise Scotland based in Rouken Glen Park.

Climate Change

Following a delay due to COVID-19, in August 2020 the Cabinet considered the Committee's report on its [Investigation on Climate Change](#) undertaken between November 2019 and February 2020. This was in support of the refreshed Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan. In total, the Committee made 24 recommendations, including that the Council's strategy on climate change be renewed, setting out the Council's future priorities with clear actions, to replace the former Climate Change Strategy and Sustainability Action Plan, and to include the involvement of children and young people in the development of the new strategy. As the Committee's findings had been known for some time due to the delay referred to above, at the same meeting the Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Environment in response. The Committee noted a detailed [Update on the Implementation of Recommendations](#) in January 2022 and agreed also to seek further clarification on some transport issues and carbon dioxide emissions from the new Eastwood Leisure Complex.

9. Maximising Attendance and Early Retirement/Redundancy Costs

The Committee has scrutinised the Council's approach to maximising staff attendance over an extended period of time, recognising the importance of this issue to the organisation, including in terms of cost and service delivery to local residents. Many years ago the Committee specifically requested, and has since considered, a detailed Annual Report on this. The report includes comparative absence figures, benchmarking East Renfrewshire's performance against other councils, and comments on a wide range of related issues including support and wellness programmes offered to staff. The Committee considers these reports valuable, discussions recently having included ones on stress issues associated with COVID-19. It supports the range of approaches being taken to reduce absence levels across the Council.

Annually, the Committee also considers a report summarising the position on early retirement/redundancy costs for the previous financial year and related issues, including the total costs incurred and projected savings associated with these.

10. Other Specific issues

Periodically the Committee seeks clarification or pursues further discussions and reports on specific issues, examples of which are provided in this section of the report.

Glasgow City Deal

In January 2018, the Committee sought a report on issues relating to the allocation of responsibilities to staff, adherence to related procedures and associated pay issues in East Renfrewshire Council in relation to the Glasgow City Region City Deal. The report prepared was submitted and discussed in April that year. Subsequently in 2020, following the publication of a National External Audit Report on *Scotland's City Region and Growth Deals*, the local position on the City Deal at that stage was also discussed.

Assessment of Winter Maintenance Arrangements

Later in 2018, the Committee sought and received a report on road gritting and the future delivery of the service. Issues discussed included how the Council had coped well during particularly adverse weather conditions earlier that year, public expectations regarding winter maintenance arrangements, and proposals to review the regime as areas for potential improvement were to be explored. The receipt of both compliments and complaints on the service were amongst issues discussed, during which some suggestions were made by members of the Committee, such as on grit bins and accessing good, long-range weather forecast models. Members were invited to submit any further comments they had to the Head of Environment (Strategic Services) during the on-going review.

Rationalisation of Council Properties

The Committee sought and received a report on the rationalisation of Council property and buildings, including work being undertaken on this, the value of some significant properties, and the adoption of a corporate landlord approach. The report also referred to work undertaken to develop options regarding the development of an accommodation strategy on the retention, disposal and use of some properties on which the Director of Environment had submitted a report to the Council in October 2018. During discussion, members of the Committee commented and made suggestions to the Head of Environment (Strategic Services) on Capelrig House, the Lygates building, the Dickie Building and Clarkston Social Work Office amongst others which he undertook to consider further.

Consultancy Costs

Arising from the discussions above, the Director of Environment was invited to attend a meeting in 2019 to discuss issues regarding consultation reports commissioned and prepared on accommodation issues, specifically in relation to the leisure centre consultation but also related matters regarding such reports raised by the Committee. More generally, the Committee also opted to consider expenditure on external consultants and feasibility studies across departments, the reasons for doing so, and which consultants had been used, in the first instance reviewing work carried out on this by the Committee during the previous Administration. Ultimately the Committee agreed in June 2020 to review annually the Consultancy Log established by the Council, after the end of each financial year, to allow it to raise and seek clarification on issues as required.

Schools Admission Policy and Education Appeals System

In August 2019, the Director of Education was advised of the Committee's concerns on the potential implications of the proposal under consideration by the Scottish Government to transfer administration of the education appeals system from local authority control to the Scottish Tribunals System. The committee agreed this was a low priority issue for review, to monitor the position and to consider in 2021/22 any modifications to the process that may be required to improve the focus on customers, including if there was felt to be a need for representations to be made at a national level. In the interim, it requested and received a presentation on the admission policy and appeals system in 2019. As reflected in the 2021/22 Work Plan, the Committee did not have time to revisit the issue.

11. Call-in and Related Issues

As already highlighted, a key scrutiny function of the Committee is considering decisions taken by the Council's Cabinet that have been "called in" and referred to it for review.

Only one call in issue was dealt with by the Committee between 2017 and 2022, when a decision made by the Cabinet on Woodfarm Educational Trust was discussed in January 2019. The Cabinet had agreed to bring forward the date when ownership of Woodfarm Educational Centre reverted to the Trust in exchange for a payment and a standard security to secure the future use of the premises as a multicultural centre, and to secure an uplift in value which would be payable to the Council in the event of a future change of use. The matter was referred for further scrutiny on the grounds the proposal did not represent Best Value, the alternative proposal being to retain the existing arrangements.

The Committee agreed to accept the Cabinet decision, but various issues were discussed and assurances sought first, including on the statutory duty that falls to Councils to secure Best Value when disposing and letting property, the valuation of the property, and the benefits of the Trust having ownership of rather than leasing the property.

12. Training

During 2017/18 a range of training and development opportunities were made available to all Members as part of the induction programme arranged for all those elected to the Council in 2017. Linked to that and the Best Value Assurance Review recommendation that Elected Members should take a more transparent and active role in scrutiny, a programme of essential scrutiny skills training was also offered and promoted, including to those serving on the Committee. This included training on essential scrutiny skills, risk management and treasury management. A session was also arranged on the roles of Internal and External Audit. Arising from a recent self-assessment, the current Committee encourages those serving on it in future to take full advantage of such opportunities to help the Committee work effectively.

13. Committee Self-Evaluation and Review

The Committee aims to ensure it performs a valuable scrutiny function within the Council and has therefore completed a self-evaluation periodically, including in late 2021/early 2022. It also welcomed the opportunity to reflect on and summarise the work it has undertaken during the current Administration in this report for the benefit of people both within and outwith the Council, including those to be appointed to the Committee following the 2022 local government Elections.

For the most recent review, instead of using a self-assessment tool developed by the Audit Committee Institute (ACI) as had been done in 2012 and 2017, tools made available by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) were used on what is accepted as best practice for local authority audit committees. More specifically, 3 templates within the CIPFA *Practical Guidance on Audit Committees for Local Authorities and Police* (2018) were used and the focus of discussions as listed below:

- *Knowledge and Skills Framework*, which focussed on core areas of knowledge; specialist areas of knowledge; and core skills;
- *Good Practice Self-Assessment*, which focussed on the extent to which there is compliance with principles set out in the CIPFA Guidance; and
- *Evaluation of Effectiveness Checklist*, to help the Committee determine where it is most effective or scope exists to do things differently.

Discussions were pursued during January and February 2022. On the basis of the outcome of the self-evaluation, a list of observations and recommendations on matters where room for some improvement is considered to exist in the Committee's view, listed under various headings, has been prepared to pass on to those appointed to the new Committee and others as considered appropriate. The committee approved the final list on 7 April 2022.

14. COVID-19

Finally, reference has already been made to how COVID-19 impacted on various aspects of the Committee's work. Following the start of the COVID related lock down in March 2020 which led to the cancellation of various formal meetings, the Committee was amongst the first to be reconvened virtually using Teams prior to the summer recess that year. It continued to meet virtually after that, with some meeting dates rescheduled as required. Recordings of those meetings are available on the Council's YouTube Channel.

Following the publication by Audit Scotland in August 2019 of its *COVID-19 Scrutiny Guide for Audit and Risk Committees*, the Committee requested and received various comments on issues raised in the Guide from the Corporate Management Team on how the Council responded to the pandemic. Taking account of other updates Elected Members receive on COVID-19, such as at Council meetings and otherwise, a formal update was not requested, but it always remained an option for the Committee to request feedback on any issue by exception.

15. Conclusion

The pandemic was amongst issues that impacted on the Committee being able to review everything it might have wished to review prior to the forthcoming Elections. However, although some issues remained outstanding at the time of its final meeting on 7 April, overall a lot is considered to have been achieved in the past five years.

The Committee thanks all officers within the Council and the External Auditor who have contributed to its work over the past 5 years.

Annex 1 – Current Audit and Scrutiny Committee Members



Cllr Stewart Miller
(Chair)



Cllr Barbara Grant
(Vice Chair)



Cllr Angela Convery



Cllr Charlie Gilbert



Cllr Annette Ireland



Cllr Jim McLean



Cllr Jim Swift

East Renfrewshire Council

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